

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Patricia A. Plunkert, Aluminum Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-4979, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: pplunker@usgs.gov

Micheal George (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7962
Fax: (703) 648-7975

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2002

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in August was 237,321 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,656 t, slightly lower than that of the previous month but 12% higher than the rate for August 2001.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased from 65.19 cents per pound in July to 62.55 cents per pound in August, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) began the month at 44 to 46 cents per pound. On August 12, the price range narrowed to 44 to 45.5 cents per pound, and on August 19, it increased slightly to 44.5 to 46 cents per pound. The price range remained at this level through the end of the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the average monthly

transaction price for aluminum UBCs decreased from 47.1 cents per pound in July to 45.8 cents per pound in August.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased slightly from 62.55 cents per pound in August to 62.62 cents per pound in September. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs increased during the first part of September; on September 5, 45 to 47 cents per pound; and on September 10, 46 to 47.5 cents per pound. On September 23, the price range narrowed to 46 to 47 cents per pound, and on September 27, the price range decreased by a half penny to 45.5 to 46.5 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks, end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2001: 5/ 2001:	2,637	1,770	1,210	2,980	2,560	683	3,240	8,860	1,300
August	212	166	110	276	198	57	254	742	1,420
September	206	159	106	265	252	56	308	779	1,390
October	214	172	112	284	220	58	278	777	1,360
November	208	152	106	258	248	57	305	771	1,310
December	205	133	94	227	227	44	271	703	1,300
January-August	1,804	1,270	840	2,110	1,610	467	2,080	5,990	1,420
2002:									
January	210	147	102	249	272	58	330	789	1,290
February	197	141	93	234	205	52	257	688	1,270
March	220	153	99	252	233	62	285	758	1,320
April	216	148	96	245	221	65	286	747	1,310
May	228	154	98	252	221	76	297	777	1,280
June	225	150	95	245	263	71	334	805	1,300 r/
July	238	145 r/	100	244 r/	228	74	302	785	1,300
August	237 p/	149	103	252	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-August	1,772	1,190	787	1,970	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

5/ Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2001: 2/	1,810	1,350	946	823	765	706	98	88	13	13	3,630	2,980
2001:												
August	172	128	81	71	73	68	10	9	(3/)	(3/)	337	276
September	170	128	78	68	66	61	9	7	1	1	324	265
October	186	139	80	70	69	63	12	11	1	1	348	284
November	171	127	74	64	61	56	10	9	1	1	317	258
December	163	120	62	54	50	46	8	7	(3/)	(3/)	284	227
January-August	1,360	1,020	613	533	531	489	67	60	4	4	2,570	2,110
2002:												
January	150	111	80	69	62	57	11	10	1	1	303	249
February	146	108	69	60	61	56	11	10	1	1	287	234
March	152	113	79	69	64	60	11	10	1	1	307	252
April	150	112	71	62	63	58	13	12	1	1	298	245
May	152	113	73	63	68	63	13	12	(3/)	(3/)	307	252
June	150	112	65	56	70	65	12	11	(3/)	(3/)	298	245
July	149 r/	111 r/	66	56	74 r/	69	9 r/	8 r/	(3/)	(3/)	299 r/	244 r/
August	151	112	68	58	78	72	10	9	(3/)	(3/)	307	252
January-August	1,200	893	571	494	541	501	90	82	4	4	2,410	1,970

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes monthly and annual data.

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN AUGUST 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	126,000	151,000	93,700	112,000
Integrated aluminum companies	67,800	67,800	58,100	58,100
Independent mill fabricators	64,900	77,800	60,000	72,000
Foundries	8,660	10,400	7,760	9,320
Other consumers	347	416	347	416
Total	268,000	307,000	220,000	252,000

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	August			January-August 2/		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	27,300 r/	74,000	73,900	27,300	605,000	605,000
Can stock clippings	2,740	20,400	20,400	2,740	150,000	150,000
Other clippings	5,700 r/	11,000	11,100	5,590	88,700	90,000
Borings and turnings	4,620 r/	19,000	19,000	4,640	155,000	154,000
Dross and skimmings	2,900 r/	34,100	34,300	2,710	272,000	272,000
Total new scrap	43,200 r/	159,000	159,000	43,000	1,270,000	1,270,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	11,600 r/	33,100	33,000	11,700	262,000	261,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,970 r/	2,170	2,260	1,880	18,800	18,900
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	34,900	65,900	63,300	37,400	474,000	470,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	4,530 r/	8,950	9,300	4,180	71,200	72,600
Total old scrap	52,900 r/	110,000	108,000	55,100	827,000	822,000
Sweated pig	174 r/	917	917	174	7,810	7,810
Total all classes	96,300 r/	270,000	268,000	98,300	2,100,000	2,100,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

3/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	August				January-August 3/	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	4,450 r/	1,440	1,530	4,370	13,600	13,800
380 and variations	5,430 r/	33,900	33,700	5,540	266,000	264,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,160	4,080	4,080	3,150	32,700	32,700
No. 319 and variations	9,940 r/	11,400	11,300	10,000	89,700	90,500
F-132 alloy and variations	1,880 r/	1,600	1,600	1,880	15,700	15,700
Al-Zn alloys	630	59	59	630	469	556
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	1,350	1,350
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	1,530	1,530
Other 4/	4,720 r/	9,340	9,330	4,740	74,900	75,500
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,700 r/	17,400	17,800	10,300	139,000	139,000
Total all alloys	41,000 r/	79,500	79,800	40,700	635,000	635,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	6,220	XX	XX	49,400	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,740	XX	XX	28,800	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	661	XX	XX	5,580	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 5/	XX	68,900	XX	XX	551,000	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

4/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

5/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	January-		January-		January-		January-	
	July	July	July	July	July	July	July	July
Argentina	10,600	47,300	91	307	--	383	10,700	48,000
Australia	3,800	63,800	(2/)	27	20	73	3,820	63,900
Bahrain	278	8,110	1,320	8,770	--	--	1,600	16,900
Belgium	--	(2/)	1,450	4,920	--	450	1,450	5,370
Brazil	1,530	15,400	116	560	1,990	9,100	3,640	25,100
Canada	135,000	940,000	43,100	267,000	24,300	167,000	203,000	1,370,000
France	203	682	585	3,440	246	2,940	1,030	7,060
Germany	135	1,400	6,190	34,100	288	4,240	6,620	39,700
Ghana	--	--	--	--	1,130	5,120	1,130	5,120
Hungary	--	--	902	4,680	--	--	902	4,680
Italy	--	79	267	1,440	20	20	287	1,530
Japan	44	220	954	5,650	66	195	1,060	6,070
Korea, Republic of	--	3,510	337	3,230	--	99	337	6,840
Mexico	193	2,540	1,090	9,430	5,900	33,000	7,180	44,900
Netherlands	56	276	201	1,690	80	1,560	337	3,530
Norway	675	3,300	(2/)	56	--	--	675	3,360
Russia	52,300	365,000	4,250	34,400	3,140	15,100	59,700	415,000
South Africa	--	10,000	2,300	16,700	--	8	2,300	26,700
Spain	--	543	30	116	--	--	30	659
Sweden	--	2	205	1,810	39	143	243	1,950
Switzerland	1,820	2,080	136	1,320	--	100	1,950	3,500
Ukraine	--	--	--	20	--	--	--	20
United Arab Emirates	1,220	35,300	--	--	157	476	1,380	35,700
United Kingdom	303	611	859	5,500	306	3,300	1,470	9,410
Venezuela	19,600	126,000	2,150	11,800	442	4,740	22,200	142,000
Other	399	7,060	7,270	41,000	3,030	22,400	10,700	70,400
Total	228,000	1,630,000	73,800	458,000	41,200	270,000	343,000	2,360,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July	July	January- July
Australia	20	83	69	814	--	177	89	1,070
Belgium	19	111	208	2,320	--	59	228	2,490
Brazil	(2/)	93	1,440	17,800	--	16	1,440	17,900
Canada	8,150	53,300	43,100	271,000	13,800	126,000	65,100	451,000
China	6	28	1,990	19,400	15,000	104,000	17,000	123,000
Czech Republic	(2/)	(2/)	1	7	--	5	1	13
Dominican Republic	--	3	123	460	--	--	123	463
France	(2/)	70	273	2,450	--	6	273	2,530
Germany	38	1,220	190	1,660	--	144	228	3,020
Hong Kong	4	96	465	2,710	509	4,220	979	7,020
India	(2/)	107	23	116	310	2,260	333	2,480
Israel	--	66	136	977	3	3	140	1,050
Italy	5	10	107	1,230	--	3	113	1,240
Japan	506	2,710	587	5,880	2,070	16,500	3,160	25,100
Korea, Republic of	(2/)	285	538	5,260	4,110	29,400	4,650	35,000
Malaysia	15	38	44	286	6	506	64	830
Mexico	5,980	57,900	10,000	66,100	9,850	54,400	25,800	178,000
Netherlands	(2/)	28	52	539	1	51	53	618
Russia	--	19	2	26	--	9	2	54
Saudi Arabia	--	(2/)	1,140	10,300	--	--	1,140	10,300
Singapore	48	90	78	1,800	--	141	126	2,030
Spain	6	35	24	488	--	482	30	1,010
Sweden	--	--	113	416	--	5	113	421
Taiwan	1	116	594	4,090	2,650	14,700	3,250	18,900
Thailand	--	(2/)	638	6,030	58	613	696	6,650
United Kingdom	73	345	683	5,300	18	462	774	6,110
Venezuela	--	4	551	4,950	--	--	551	4,950
Other	109	318	2,810	18,300	365	2,570	3,290	21,200
Total	15,000	117,000	66,000	451,000	48,800	357,000	130,000	925,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.